

CLAIMS

1. A support apparatus for supporting a reciprocating working member of a tool, wherein the working member executes reciprocating motion relative to a body of the tool, and the tool has a mode in which the reciprocating working member rotates relative to said body about an axis substantially parallel to the direction of reciprocating motion of the working member, the apparatus comprising:

a support engaging the reciprocating working member to provide a reaction force to said working member along a line of action of the tool;

and a mount rigidly connected to said support and mounting the apparatus relative to the working member to enable said support to remain in engagement with the working member during rotation thereof relative to the body about said axis.

2. A support apparatus for supporting a reciprocating working member of a tool, wherein the working member executes reciprocating motion relative to a body of the tool, and the tool has a mode in which the reciprocating working member executes pivoting reciprocating motion relative to said body about an axis transverse to the direction of reciprocating motion of the working member, the apparatus comprising:

a support engaging the reciprocating working member to provide a reaction force to said working member along a line of action of the tool;

and a mount rigidly connected to said support and mounting the apparatus relative to the working member to enable said support to remain in engagement with the working member during pivoting reciprocating motion thereof relative to the body about said axis.

3. A tool comprising:

a body;

a working member which is reciprocated relative to said body, said tool having a first operating mode in which said working member can be rotated relative to said body about a first axis substantially parallel to the direction of reciprocating motion of the working member, and said tool having a second operating mode in which said working

member can execute pivoting reciprocating motion relative to said body about a second axis which is transverse to the direction of reciprocating motion of the working member;

a support engaging the reciprocating working member;

and a mount rigidly connected to said support and mounting the support relative to the working member to enable said support to remain in engagement with the working member during both said first and second operating modes.

4. A tool as recited in claim 3, wherein said support prevents movement of said working member in a direction transverse to a line of action of the working member.

5. A tool as recited in claim 4, wherein said support engages the working member on both sides thereof in a direction transverse to a line of action of the working member.

6. A tool as recited in claim 3, wherein said support comprises at least one roller.

7. A tool as recited in claim 3, wherein said mount comprises a first part rigidly connected to said support, and a second part adapted to be connected to said working member and to undergo reciprocating movement relative to said first part.

8. A tool as recited in claim 7, wherein said first part further comprises an elongate aperture, and said second part further comprises an elongate bearing such that said elongate aperture slidably receives said bearing therein.

9. A tool as recited in claim 3 further comprising:

a motor having a rotary output shaft; and

first drive means for converting rotary movement of said output shaft to reciprocating movement of said working member.

10. A tool as recited in claim 9, further comprising second drive means for converting rotary movement of said output shaft to pivoting reciprocating movement of said support about said second axis in said second operating mode.

11. A tool as recited in claim 10, wherein said second drive means comprises cam means for pivotally displacing said support from a first position relative to said tool body.

12. A tool as recited in claim 11, wherein said second drive means further comprises biasing means for pivotally urging said support into said first position relative to said tool body.